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Sixteenth United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Pacific
Okinawa, Japan
14-18 July 2003
Item 4 (b) of the provisional agenda*
Organizational matters: adoption of the agenda

Annotations to the provisional agenda and proposed organization of work

Annotations

1. Opening of the Conference

In its decision 2002/229 of 23 July 2002, the Economic and Social Council decided to accept the offer of the Government of Japan to host the Sixteenth United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Pacific. The Conference will be held in the Okinawa Convention Centre, Okinawa, Japan, from 14 to 18 July 2003.

2. Election of the President and other officers of the Conference

Rule 5 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Conference (E/CONF.95/2) provides that the Conference shall elect a President, two Vice-Presidents and a Rapporteur from among the representatives of the States participating in the Conference.

3. Objectives of the Conference

The primary objective of the Conference is to provide a regional forum where governmental decision-makers, planners, scientists and experts from Asia and the Pacific and other regions may meet to report on the efforts being accomplished in the development and implementation of national spatial data infrastructures in Asia and the Pacific, and to address the common needs, problems and experiences in the field of surveying and mapping, remote sensing, land and geographic information systems, and other geo-spatial technologies and applications, including educational and training aspects, scientific and technological requirements, implementation issues and benefits.

* E/CONF.95/1 and Add.1.

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4. Organizational matters

(a) Consideration and adoption of the rules of procedure

The Conference will have before it for consideration and adoption the provisional rules of procedure, as contained in document E/CONF.95/2.

Documentation

Provisional rules of procedure (E/CONF.95/2)

(b) Adoption of the agenda

The Conference will have before it for approval the provisional agenda for the Sixteenth United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Pacific, as contained in document E/CONF.95/1, which was adopted at the Fifteenth United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Pacific, held in April 2000 in Kuala Lumpur, as well as annotations to the provisional agenda and proposed organization of work, as contained in the present document.

Documentation

Provisional agenda (E/CONF.95/1)

Annotations to the provisional agenda and proposed organization of work (E/CONF.95/1/Add.1)

(c) Establishment of technical committees and election of chairmen and rapporteurs

Rule 37 of the provisional rules of procedure (E/CONF.95/2) provides that the Conference may establish such committees as may be necessary for the performance of its functions. It is proposed that the Conference establish three technical committees (technical committees I, II and III) to consider various issues and submit draft proposals to the Conference for consideration and adoption.

In accordance with rule 38 of the provisional rules of procedure and the established practice of past United Nations Regional Cartographic Conferences for Asia and the Pacific, the Conference shall elect chairmen of the three technical committees, and shall authorize the committees to elect their vice-chair and rapporteur, as may be required. It is recommended that the Sixteenth United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference should, like previous Conferences, follow the standard practice of United Nations conferences whereby an agreement is reached on the slate of candidates for the posts prior to the opening of the Conference in order that the candidates may be elected without a vote, by acclamation.

(d) Organization of work

The proposed organization of work for the Conference, which is set out in the present document, should be regarded as indicative. The Conference may make adjustments to it, as required.

The Conference shall meet from Monday, 14 July, to Friday, 18 July 2003. The interpretation resources and meetings facilities will be available for two formal meetings each day, one in the morning and one in the afternoon. The meeting hours

will normally be from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. and from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. In order to ensure the most efficient use of available resources, it is essential that all meetings start promptly at the time scheduled.

Documentation

Annotations to the provisional agenda and proposed organization of work (E/CONF.95/1/Add.1)

(e) Credentials of representatives to the Conference

Rule 3 of the provisional rules of procedure provides that the President and the Vice-Presidents shall examine the credentials of the representatives to the Conference and shall report to the Conference without delay. It had been the practice for previous Conferences to establish a Credentials Committee, which examined the credentials of the representatives and reported to the plenary.

(f) Election procedures for the Permanent Committee on GIS Infrastructure for Asia and the Pacific

5. Report of the Permanent Committee on GIS Infrastructure for Asia and the Pacific

A report on recent activities of the Permanent Committee on GIS Infrastructure for Asia and the Pacific will be submitted to the Conference.

Documentation

Report of the Permanent Committee on GIS Infrastructure for Asia and the Pacific (E/CONF.95/3)

6. Conference reports

(a) Reports on the implementation of resolutions of the United Nations Regional Cartographic Conferences for Asia and the Pacific

A report summarizing the follow-up actions taken on the resolutions adopted at the Fifteenth United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Pacific, Kuala Lumpur, 11-14 April 2000, will be presented to the Conference.

Documentation

Report on the implementation of resolutions of the United Nations Regional Cartographic Conferences for Asia and the Pacific prepared by the Secretariat and the Permanent Committee on GIS Infrastructure for Asia and the Pacific will be submitted to the Conference (E/CONF.95/4).

(b) Country reports

The Conference will have before it country reports for information.

Documentation

Country reports (E/CONF.95/5/CR.1-__)

7. Invited papers

The invited papers will focus on the development and contributions of spatial data infrastructures in support of the implementation of Agenda 21, assess the efforts being accomplished in the development of national spatial data infrastructures, and address technical and economic geographic information issues as well as institutional and other non-technical problems.

Documentation

Invited papers (E/CONF.95/6/IP.1-__)

8. Technical committees of the Conference

It is proposed that the Conference establish three technical committees: technical committee I: Development needs and institutional capacity-building; technical committee II: Fundamental data: their collection and management in an integrated approach; and technical committee III: Spatial data infrastructures and their development in Asia and the Pacific. The committees should discuss various issues and submit proposals to the Conference for consideration and action.

In accordance with the proposed organization of work, the committees are scheduled to meet on Thursday, 17 July, in the afternoon, in parallel sessions.

9. Reports and resolutions

(a) Reports of the technical committees of the Conference

The technical committees should report to the plenary on their work.

(b) Adoption of reports and action plans

Following its adoption of the reports prepared by the technical committees, the Conference should propose action plans for their future work.

(c) Adoption of resolutions

The Conference will consider for adoption draft resolutions recommended by the technical committees.

10. Review of the achievements of the Conference

The Conference will review the achievements accomplished during its session.

11. Provisional agenda of the Seventeenth United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Pacific

The Conference will adopt the provisional agenda of the Seventeenth United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Pacific.

Documentation

Provisional agenda for the Seventeenth United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Pacific (E/CONF.95/L.__)

12. Organizational matters concerning the Permanent Committee on GIS Infrastructure for Asia and the Pacific

(a) Election of the Executive Board

(b) Statute

(c) Working groups

(d) Next meeting

13. Adoption of the report of the Sixteenth United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Pacific

The Conference will adopt its report.

Documentation

Draft report of the Sixteenth United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Pacific (E/CONF.95/L.1-__)

Proposed organization of work*

Week of 14-18 July 2003

Monday, 14 July

9 a.m.-2 p.m.		Registration of participants; meeting of the Executive Board of the Permanent Committee on GIS Infrastructure for Asia and the Pacific
2 p.m.-5.30 p.m.	Item 1.	Opening of the Conference
	Item 2.	Election of the President and other officers of the Conference
		Statements by the representatives of the host Government and the United Nations
		Short break
	Item 3.	Objectives of the Conference
	Item 4.	Organizational matters
		(a) Consideration and adoption of the rules of procedure
		(b) Adoption of the agenda
		(c) Establishment of technical committees and election of chairmen and rapporteurs
		(d) Organization of work
		(e) Credentials of representatives to the Conference
		(f) Election procedures for the Permanent Committee on GIS Infrastructure for Asia and the Pacific
		(Break from 3.30 p.m.-4 p.m.)
4 p.m.-5.30 p.m.	Item 5.	Report of the Permanent Committee on GIS Infrastructure for Asia and the Pacific
	Item 6.	Conference reports
		(a) Reports on the implementation of resolutions of the United Nations Regional Cartographic Conferences for Asia and the Pacific
		(b) Country reports

Tuesday, 15 July

9 a.m.-12 p.m.	Item 7.	Invited papers: global/regional/national spatial data infrastructures issues
2 p.m.-5 p.m.	Item 7.	Invited papers: international organizations

* The proposed organization of work is only indicative and is subject to change. The actual programme of work will be announced daily in the journal of the Conference.

Wednesday, 16 July		
9 a.m.-12 p.m.	Item 7.	Invited papers: economic issues in the evolution of national spatial data
Afternoon		Technical tour (no meeting)
Thursday, 17 July		
9 a.m.-12 p.m.	Item 7.	Invited papers: spatial data collection, management and dissemination
2 p.m.-5 p.m.	Item 8.	Technical committees of the Conference (parallel meetings)
		Technical committee I: Development needs and institutional capacity-building
		Technical committee II: Fundamental data: their collection and management in an integrated approach
		Technical committee III: Spatial data infrastructures and their development in Asia and the Pacific
Friday, 18 July		
9 a.m.-12 p.m.	Item 9.	Reports and resolutions
		(a) Reports of the technical committees of the Conference
		(b) Adoption of reports and action plans
		(c) Adoption of resolutions
2 p.m.-4 p.m.	Item 10.	Review of the achievements of the Conference
	Item 11.	Provisional agenda of the Seventeenth United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Pacific
	Item 12.	Organizational matters concerning the Permanent Committee on GIS Infrastructure for Asia and the Pacific
		(a) Election of the Executive Board
		(b) Statute
		(c) Working groups
		(d) Next meeting
	Item 13.	Adoption of the report of the Sixteenth United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Pacific
		Conclusion of the Conference
4 p.m.-6 p.m.		Meeting of the Executive Board of the Permanent Committee on GIS Infrastructure for Asia and the Pacific